

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 11837 140001Z

ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8435

UNCLAS MANILA 11837

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SHUM, RP

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS: KBL FINALLY WINS IN

- CENTRAL MINDANAO

REF: MANILA 6818

1. MANILA PRESS JULY 13 REPORTS THE GOVERNMENT'S KBL PARTY HAS WON AN 8-0 SWEEP IN THE HOTLY-PROTESTED REGION XII (COTABATO) INTERIM LEGISLATURE ELECTIONS, AFTER THREE MONTHS OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL MANEUVERING. FINAL RESULTS WERE ANNOUNCED BY COMELEC'S REGIONAL BOARD OF CANVASSERS IN A 75-PAGE RESOLUTION JULY 12. LOWEST KBL CANDIDATE WON BY NEARLY 100,000 VOTES OVER HIGHEST OPPOSITION KUNSIYENSIYA NG BAYAN (COMMUNITY CONSCIENCE) PARTY CANDIDATE. UNDER SUPREME COURT GUIDELINES, HOWEVER, THE OPPOSITION HAS FIVE DAYS TO APPEAL THE BOARD RULING TO THE FULL COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS BEFORE IT BECOMES FINAL; THEY IMMEDIATELY SERVED NOTICE THAT THEY DO PLAN TO APPEAL, THUS PROBABLY DELAYING THE OFFICIAL DECLARATION.

2. THE COMELEC RESOLUTION REPORTED THAT 113,250 BALLOTS, PROTESTED BY ONE PARTY OR THE OTHER, WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE COUNT. EXCLUSIONS WERE PRINCIPALLY IN LANA DEL SUR AND LANA DEL NORTE, WITH A FEW FROM THE COTABATO PROV-
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INCES AS WELL. ALL RETURNS FROM THREE MUNICIPALITIES (COUNTIES) IN THE LANA DEL SUR PROVINCES WERE AMONG THOSE REJECTED.

3. THE WINNING CANDIDATES, BY VOTE TOTALS, ARE AS FOLLOWS: ESTANISLAO VALDEZ, ABDULLAH DIMAPORO (SON OF LANA DEL SUR GOVERNOR ALI DIMAPORO), SAMBOLAYAN

PANGANDAMAN, BLAH SINSUAT, JESUS AMPARO, LINANG MANDANGAN,
TOMAS BAGA, AND ANACLETO BADOY. MURPHY

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